

The Times-Dispatch

Business Office.....1015 E. Main Street
 South Richmond.....1020 Hull Street
 Petersburg Bureau.....100 N. Byamonte Street
 Lynchburg Bureau.....115 Eighth Street

BY MAIL One Six Three One
 POSTAGE PAID Year. Mo. Mo. Mo.
 Daily with Sunday.....\$5.00 \$2.00 \$1.00 .05
 Daily without Sunday.....4.00 2.00 1.00 .05
 Sunday edition only.....2.00 1.00 .05 .05
 Weekly (Wednesday).....1.00 .50 .25 .05

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service to Richmond (and suburbs) and Petersburg—
 One Week.....15 cents
 Daily with Sunday.....10 cents
 Sunday only.....5 cents

Entered January 7, 1906, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 1911.

THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY.

Woodrow Wilson has written a letter to Editor James A. Hoyt, of the Columbia Record, approving the suggestion of a primary election at which the people may express their choice of candidates for the presidency. His mind is very clear as to the advantage to be derived from such a plan as this, a plan which really has nothing to commend it, in our opinion, even if it be true that the Legislatures of New Jersey, Oregon and Nebraska have adopted it, the Legislature of the first named State having been persuaded to venture into this experimental field at Dr. Wilson's own urgent suggestion. In his letter to Editor Hoyt, Governor Wilson says:

"That I heartily approve the extension of the principles of the primary election in such a way as to enable the people to express their preference among the candidates to be nominated for the presidency, I have given ample evidence by my earnest advocacy of the measure passed by the last Legislature in New Jersey, which establishes that right. Oregon, Nebraska and New Jersey have already adopted this plan. It seems to me entirely in keeping with the spirit of present day reform, and ought certainly to add to the zest and interest and dignity of the whole process by which we choose candidates for the presidency."

We are inclined to think at times that "the spirit of present day reform" is not a thing to be encouraged beyond a reasonable and sane consideration of the rights of the people and the principles upon which this government was founded. A primary election to determine who shall be the candidate for the Democratic party for President would make a good deal more politics in this country, and politics of a very sorry order. It would greatly increase expenses in the first place; it would keep the States in perpetual ferment; it would give the demagogues a new field in which to ply their peculiar talents; it would not result, in our opinion, necessarily in the choice of a winner at the general election. That it would contribute in the slightest to the "dignity" of the whole process by which we choose candidates for the presidency can hardly be seriously considered, so many experiments with the primary system having proved beyond doubt that the least of the merits of this system is the "dignity" which it adds to our political activities.

YANKEE NEGROES MARCHING ON TAFT.

Five thousand negroes are going to Washington to tell President Taft of the alleged wrongs from which the race suffers in the South, at least such is the plan the New England Baptist Missionary Convention, colored, adopted at its meeting in Providence, Rhode Island, on Sunday.

Little good it will do. Nearly all the negroes in the South are satisfied with their present condition. Hooker Washington has advised them over and over again to stay in the South; that the South is the place for them and that their best and truest friends were the white people of the South. According to the latest figures the negroes in the South own property of the value of not less than \$100,000,000. They are landowners and bankers and workers in every field of industrial activity. They follow their trades and professions without molestation. They are protected in their persons and property. In 1907-'08 in the sixteen former slave States and the District of Columbia there were 16,671 negroes attending the public schools, and there were 135 schools especially for them. Since the war the South has spent more than \$125,000,000 for the education of the negro, the largest part of this vast sum coming out of the pockets of the white taxpayers of the South. The chief complaint that has been made is that the negroes are not given their "rights" in politics, that they are not allowed to fill the offices to manage the elections, to put their own people in office, but instead of "suffering" from this they are really benefited by it. The present storming of the White House, it will be noted, is the plan of the negroes of New England, where the negroes own little property, where they are discriminated against in almost every conceivable way, where they are not elected to office, where the race feeling against them is really stronger than it is in the South, and this New England negro missionary convention proposes to ask or "demand" that the President should exert his authority or influence in the relief of the condition of the negroes in New England, but of the negroes in the South.

Mr. Taft understands the negroes in the South and their condition. He knows that they are not white people, and he has recently expressed himself very plainly about the course their education should take so as to make them useful members of society and at the same time prosperous and progressive. It is said that he will prob-

ably be asked to address the five thousand negro pilgrims from New England in one of the Washington churches, and we hope that he will accept the invitation and tell the Yankee negroes a few plain facts about themselves and about their race in the South. It really doesn't matter, however, what is said to them or to their kind by race agitators; we can tell them that Abraham Lincoln was overwhelmingly right when he said that it is not possible for two diverse races to live on the same soil on equal political and social terms. Acts of Congress, Executive proclamations, five thousand marching negroes from New England and vicious preaching by members of the colored race and their abnormal white sympathizers will not change the decrees of the Almighty.

PINCHOT WAS PRESENT.

At a meeting of the National Association of the Audubon Society in New York last week, the gift of \$25,000, offered by the various gun and ammunition interests in the country, was declined, because the mission of the Society is to save the birds, particularly the song birds and the insect-eating birds, and not to raise game birds for the use of the men who are handy with the gun. An interesting feature of the meeting in New York was described by the Sun, as follows:

"Gifford Pinchot, an advisory member of the National Association, was present at yesterday's meeting and listened to the discussion with interest."

We are glad to know that our old friend is still in the land of the living. He has not been making much stir for several months, and we feared that something had happened to him. It does not appear quite natural that he should have sat through a discussion about the conservation of our birds without making an address on the subject; but we are glad that he is still with us.

BETTER GET INTO LINE.

Nearly all the Republican newspapers are now saying a great many fine things about Mr. Taft. They generally agree that he will be renominated for President; that he is the main hope of the party; that he has grown amazingly in the public confidence during the last year, and that he is "the logical candidate." We are now waiting to hear from the New York Tribune. Is it "For him or agin him?" It will have to come in soon or late, and as its friend and counselor in times of great stress, we think it would risk little or nothing now by putting on a bold front and taking its proper place near the head of the column.

AN ARMY PLAYING BALL.

How does it happen that none of the "gardeners" of our National honor and destiny in Congress have proposed an inquiry into the operations of our army of occupation on the Texas frontier? Word came the other day that the division camp at San Antonio had been organized into a big baseball colony and that one hundred and ten teams are now at practice; that one thousand two hundred men will "engage in the national pastime" and that every company, troop and battery is organizing its team. Why does not some one of the lynx-eyed protectors of our Treasury Department, except when it comes to the question of Congressional mileage, take note of this abuse of all the articles of war?

Has it come to this that the tax-ridden people of this country must be ground down for the purpose of supporting an army wasting its time playing baseball? There is nothing else really for the army to do, now that peace prevails in Mexico, but if the soldiers should be kept in Texas until the cotton picking season opens, instead of wasting their time in the so-called "national pastime," would it not be better for the country at large if they should be detailed to help the farmers get in their cotton? Why not make the army useful in the field of industry as well as in the art of war?

THE UNSOLVED MYSTERY.

Dr. Warren H. Lewis and his wife, Mistress Margaret Reed Lewis, the former an associate professor of anatomy in the Johns Hopkins Medical School, have discovered the culture of living cells in a fluid of known chemical composition, the theory being that animals and plants generate from pre-existing cells and do not arise spontaneously. Dr. Lewis was not satisfied with this accepted view, and taking to his purposes part of the intestines, heart, liver, eye and brain and inserting in solution of different salts of a known density he found that cells would grow in distilled water with eight hundredths of one per cent. of salt. We have no right to dispute him. We accept the statement of the success of his experiments in absolutely pure distilled water exactly what it proves is quite another matter. Certainly it does not prove that life can be created by any of the inventions of man. First we must have solutions of different parts of a known density, then we must have intestines, heart, liver, eye and brain, and ever so many things, and after getting all these things together we discover that cells will grow in distilled water and life itself a mystery and comes only from one great cause. What we should like some of the higher scientists to do is to make something from nothing.

TEX ACRES ENOUGH.

About twenty years ago, says the Nashville Tennessean, a book with the title given above created much interest among those who were then so-called as "vastly more now" with a desire to "get back to the land." The volume told how a good living could be made from ten acres and health and pleasure secured at the same time.

This volume is recalled by a story which comes from San Antonio, Texas,

telling of the success of a man there who has devoted ten acres to truck farming. He had an irrigated tract and from it last year he sold \$3,231 worth of vegetables, divided in this way: winter vegetables, \$1,008; Bermuda onions, harvested in March, \$486; beans, peas and beets, \$611; radishes, both winter and summer crops, such as California beans, etc., \$668. He paid out \$221 for help; for seed and plants, \$137; water for irrigation purposes, \$100; expense of marketing, \$184; total expense, \$642, which deducted from the \$3,231 he got for his crops, left a clear profit of \$2,589—and besides this he had all the vegetables he wanted for his family of five and all the foodstuff for his horses and cows.

NORFOLK GETTING RICH.

The City of Norfolk is picking up. With the new wards that have been added to the town during the last year the assessed value of property in that city aggregates \$46,899,300, as compared with \$39,192,800 in 1910. Not including the assessment upon property owned by corporations, the property of Norfolk will yield the city this year a tax of \$774,000 in addition to the sum of \$164,174, the amount of taxes paid to the State.

In the first six wards of Norfolk, the value of property owned by the white people is \$34,470,310 and that owned by colored people \$208,310. In the Seventh Ward the value of the property owned by the whites is \$3,447,670. In the Eighth Ward the whites own \$2,152,630 worth of property and the colored people \$90,700. In the Ninth Ward the value of property owned by the white people is \$1,162,050 and the value of the property owned by the colored people is \$108,540. In the Tenth Ward the white people pay taxes on \$577,720 worth of property and the colored people pay taxes on \$21,000.

These are interesting figures, and will afford the students of the race question in the South some valuable food for thought, and particularly should it attract the attention of our Northern friends who have an idea that negroes should share equally in the administration of public affairs in Southern communities.

THE SMOKING AUTOMOBILE.

Twenty-two chauffeurs appeared in the Yorkville Police Court, New York, several days ago, charged with allowing their automobiles to give off noxious smoke on the public streets. One of these chauffeurs said that he drove a car belonging to William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., but he was fined \$5 just the same, as were the other chauffeurs who appeared in court at the same time. The Magistrate, having found that a fine of one or two dollars does no good in lessening the smoke evil, increased the fine to five dollars and delivered himself of these pertinent remarks:

"Every other city has succeeded in getting automobiles to quit smoking and this ought to be done in this city. In Paris if a chauffeur is arrested three times for smoke, his license is taken away."

There ought to be such a rule as this in Richmond. There is no reason why the automobile should smoke except the lack of care on the part of the operator. It would seem, however, that some of the drivers hereabouts have an idea that the more smoke they make the better drivers they are.

TO THE COLLEGE GRADUATE.

The Nashville Tennessean, dwelling in a city wherein are many colleges and schools, thus advises graduates:

"Put your diploma in the bottom of the deepest trunk in the garret; throw away your rah-rah vests and ties; narrow the roll in your trousers down about three inches; buy a hat slightly larger than a scorcher; get the college yell thoroughly out of your conversation, and apply to some reputable concern for work and don't look surprised when the general manager of the concern offered to you with a salary of \$3,000 the year."

In other words, get down and "dig," and, as to college, "forget it."

THEATRE PRICES.

Are the people losing the theatre habit?

Theatrical managers are anxiously making this inquiry throughout the country.

Empty galleries, empty balconies and houses half-filled downstairs are puzzling producers.

Some theatrical authorities say the motor car is responsible for the decrease in attendance. Others say that the moving picture shows have emptied theatre balconies.

Daniel Frohman lately expressed the opinion that prices are too high at the first class theatres, and he has cut the balcony and gallery prices at one of his Chicago theatres.

saw it bloom with much delight years before Betsy Ross sewed together the Stars and Stripes.

The homely morning glory, which so often grows in close harmony with the gourd vine and flourishes with so little encouragement, will not appeal to ambitious Americans who favor the American Beauty or the chrysanthemum.

The discussion will wax and wane and then, after an interval, will wax and wane again. This much should be said. The American national flower should be typical and it should be democratic. Every section will insist on its favorite. Certain folk will urge the claims of the mint blossom, which will carry Kentucky and some other Southern States by a heavy majority. Texas's favorite flower is the odorous pennyroyal. North Carolina would suggest the corn tassel. The objection must be sustained to all of these, however, and many like them. None of these are typical of the nation. The Irish potato blossom or the cabbage leaf is democratic and typical of the entire country. Or the wheat blade might do.

PRAYING FOR RAIN.

According to the Macon News, all the ministers of the Gospel and all the Christian folk of Macon and its vicinity were invited by the Rev. T. W. Callaway, pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, to join with him and his congregation last Sunday in making a "definite prayer to the Almighty asking that rain be sent to the Macon section immediately." "Some of the Christian people of Macon do not believe that the day of miracles has passed and they have made a call upon Dr. Callaway and other Christians of Macon asking all to join in fervent prayer to God asking for relief from the heat and rain for crops." The Rev. Mr. Callaway said in connection with this incident:

"It is known that the gardens of the poor as well as the rich are suffering very much for need of rain and the farmers will also be very heavy financial losers unless there is rain very soon, as the gardens and crops will be literally burned to the ground."

"God tells His people to call upon Him in time of need and that He will hear their supplications. He also says that the prayers of the righteous availeth much."

There is something refreshing about this story, something inspiring in its lesson of faith and belief in Him who rules the winds and waves, the rains and the lightning. Not often do we hear of general prayer for relief of this sort—too often, prayer seems a perfunctory performance. As the Rev. Dr. Charles S. Gardner, of Louisville, said at the Grace Street Baptist Church here on Sunday morning, people do not pray for rain as they used to. In former times, before science began its march, people believed that rain was an extraordinary manifestation of the miraculous power of God. They did not then know so much as is now known about the natural laws which govern the weather and which apply to rainfall. In later years, people have changed their views as to prayer for rain and regard rain as the result of an orderly natural law. Hence, they no longer pray for it as they used to, forgetting all the time that behind the natural laws which we have found there is an omnipotent Lawgiver who has created these laws and through Whose will they operate.

PROGRESS IN IRRIGATION.

In a recent article in Science, Dr. F. H. Newell, chief engineer of the reclamation service, gives a summary of the work done by the Government in reclaiming the arid West.

Up to date more than 1,000,000 acres have been reclaimed, under Government works and 14,000 families are living on land watered by Government canals.

Reservoirs having a capacity of 5,000,000 cubic feet have been constructed. This means enough water to put one foot of water on 5,000,000 acres of land.

Major canals, capable of carrying over 500 cubic feet have been built for a distance of 300 miles, and 1,000 miles of smaller canals have been constructed.

These figures show what can be accomplished with the Government behind a proposition.

Even greater results would be achieved if the Government could be induced to reclaim swamp lands in various other parts of the nation. All the Southern States have territory which should be reclaimed.

GROWING EVERY DAY.

More than thirty cities have adopted the commission form of government since the beginning of 1911, and, as the Birmingham News says, "the movement is growing in momentum."

Alabama is among the States invaded by the new form of municipal administration this year. Georgia is now stirred up and Atlanta, Macon, Augusta and Columbus are looking into the matter. There is little doubt that the coming session of the Georgia Legislature will see the introduction and passage of a bill opening the way for these cities to make a change for the better.

The sweep of the movement is not confined to the South. This will be seen by reference to the following list of the cities which have adopted the most efficient form of city rule yet discovered by the brain of man:

Alabama—Birmingham, Montgomery, Mobile.
 California—Berkeley, Modesto, Monterey, Oakland, San Diego, Santa Cruz, San Luis Obispo, Vallejo.
 Colorado—Colorado Springs, Grand Junction.
 Idaho—Lewiston.
 Illinois—Carbondale, Decatur, Dixon, Elgin, Hillsboro, Jacksonville, Kewanee, Moline, Ottawa, Pekin, Rochelle,

Rock Island, Springfield, Spring Valley, Waukegan, Clinton.
 Iowa—Burlington, Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Fort Dodge, Keokuk, Marshalltown, Sioux City.

Kansas—Anthony, Abilene, Coffeyville, Cherryvale, Caldwell, Council Grove, Dodge City, Emporia, Eureka, Girard, Hutchinson, Independence, Iola, Leavenworth, Kansas City, Marion, Newton, Neodesha, Parsons, Pittsburg, Topeka, Wichita, Wellington.

Kentucky—Newport.
 Louisiana—Shreveport.
 Massachusetts—Gloucester, Haverhill, Lynn, Taunton.

Michigan—Harbor Beach, Port Huron, Pontiac, Wyandotte.
 Mississippi—Clarksdale, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Fairbault, Mankato.

New Mexico—Roswell.
 North Carolina—Greensboro, High Point, Wilmington.

North Dakota—Bismarck, Mandan, Minot.
 Oklahoma—Ardmore, Bartlesville, Duncan, East Reno, Enid, Miami, McAlester, Muskogee, Purcell, Sapulpa, Tulsa, Wagoner, Oklahoma City.

Oregon—Baker.
 South Carolina—Columbia.
 South Dakota—Aberdeen, Canton, Chamberlain, Dell Rapids, Huron, Pierre, Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Vermillion, Yankton.

Tennessee—Chattanooga, Memphis.
 Texas—Arkansas Pass, Austin, Beaumont, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Denton, Fort Worth, Galveston, Greenville, Houston, Kennedy, Marble Falls, Marshall, Palestine, Port Lavaca, Sherman, Washington, Spokane, Tacoma.

West Virginia—Bluefield, Huntington, Parkersburg.
 Wisconsin—Lau Claire, Appleton.

In addition to these, Pittsburg has just adopted a certain form of commission government very much restricted, the initiative, referendum and recall features having been omitted from the enabling act.

It will be seen from a casual inspection of this list that the new form of government is making its strongest headway in the West and South. New England, always wary of things new, has hardly been invaded. New York is still without a commission government town or city, though Buffalo tried hard to secure a commission charter, failing only after great effort. The commission form of government is really of Southern origin. In so far as its principle is concerned, and it will be applied in hundreds of cities in the South within the next few years. In the list given, the absence of a commission government city in Virginia is not a fact of which to be proud.

ABOUT THE PRIMARY.

In the opinion of the Springfield Republican, "so long at least as the South remains a region where but one political party could be said to exist, the primary election system is a necessity to the Democratic party in the South. They (the primaries) are essential to a wholesome political life among the mass of Southern voters since they alone furnish the friction of thought and ambition that keeps alive political interest among large numbers of citizens." But do they? Have they? The experience of the Montgomery Advertiser shows that such has not been the case in the State of Alabama at least, where the primary system has been tried out for more than ten years, and where it has been applied to the selection of candidates for every office within the gift of the people.

There has been no improvement in the character of men chosen for office; indeed, there has been a distinct loss to the State because of a lack of political interest in the affairs of the party on the part of the most representative people in the community where the primary system has had its fullest triumph. Compare the men who are selected for the highest and lowest offices, in such States as Alabama and South Carolina, for example, by the old convention system and by the primary system, and no further argument should be required to prove the failure of the primary means of obtaining the services of the most capable man for public office.

The Morgans, and Pettuses and Currys, of Alabama, are no more. The Hamptons and Butlers, of South Carolina, have given place to other less worthy and less competent men in the legislative councils of the Nation. A tree is judged by its fruit, and the primary plan has not established its claims to the favor of those who are more concerned for the welfare of the country than for the distribution of the offices.

Last Sunday was "Father's Day" in New Haven, Connecticut; but we judge from what the Register says that it was not generally observed. Such is a fair implication from the statement of our Puritan contemporary that "for one thing, father will stoutly and sensibly decline this to be exploited." But why? Why shouldn't father go to church as well as mother? He needs it more, as matter of fact. As a rule women are born good and the most of them keep it up all their lives. Every Sunday ought to be Father's Day.

The miscreants who have defaced the Howitzer Monument ought to be hunted down and punished to the full extent of the law. If there is no law that will reach such cases, there ought to be.

The people who ride in private cars were born in places that the railroads never thought of going through.

The Prince of Wales will deliver a speech in Welsh at the coronation. It will probably start off like this: "Llyddin ywn ill gwilyddyl jwyntynnylllllll." Esperanto isn't it with Welsh.

Daily Queries and Answers

Sullivan's Defeat.
 Was John L. Sullivan ever defeated? By whom? W. F. M.
 He was defeated in a twenty-one-round fight in New Orleans in 1892 by James J. Corbett.

States by Groups.
 Give the States by groups, as Middle, Southern, and so forth, and by census divisions.

Middle States—Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina—North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas; Western or Plateau States—Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Pacific coast States—Oregon, Washington, California; Northeastern States—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland; North Central States—Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota.

States, Territories and districts are divided as follows: North Atlantic—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Atlantic—Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida; North Central—

Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas; South Central—Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas; Western division—Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, Hawaii.

Himalaya.
 How is Himalaya pronounced? H. M. S.
 Hi-ma-la-ya, with 1 sounded as in ill, the first a as in arm, the second a in senate and the third as in ask.

Thomas.
 When and where did General George H. Thomas die? Where were his remains buried? A. M. S.
 San Francisco, March 28, 1870. His body was interred in Troy, N. Y.

Manuel and Alfonso.
 When and where was Manuel of Portugal born? The same as to Alfonso? A. M. S.
 Manuel, in Lisbon, November 15, 1832; Alfonso, Madrid, May 17, 1856.

Gold.
 What is the gold product of Dutch Guiana? G. D.
 The latest published figures are: "Most alluvial" 1,427,418 grammes, valued at 1,427,418 guilders.

CLAIMANT TO SPANISH THRONE IS MARRIED

BY LA MARQUESE DE PONTENROY.
 SPAIN'S premier grandee, the seventeenth Duke of Medinaceli, who spent some time in the United States in 1907, was married at Madrid the other day to the daughter of the Marquis Camarasa, and the wedding is worthy of passing note, by reason of the fact that the duke is in addition to being probably the richest member of the Spanish aristocracy, is a claimant to the Spanish throne. This duke, who is now in his sixties, is the most intimate friend of King Alfonso, who is his junior by only six years, and whom he has been closely associated since boyhood.

The duke is a direct descendant of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella the patrons of Christopher Columbus and for him and his family the dynasty that now holds the crown of Spain are nothing more than usurpers. He is to say, in theory, since he is a chamberlain of the King, and is a stepfather, the Duke of Santo Mauro, is the grand chamberlain and the father of the young Queen of Spain, just in the same way as the grandmother, Dona Angela, the late Duchess of Medinaceli, was the grand mother of the household of Queen Cristina.

During the last 400 years, whenever a new King of Spain takes possession of his throne and is proclaimed, hereditary prince of the crown, the duke is a chamberlain of the King, and is a stepfather, the Duke of Santo Mauro, is the grand chamberlain and the father of the young Queen of Spain, just in the same way as the grandmother, Dona Angela, the late Duchess of Medinaceli, was the grand mother of the household of Queen Cristina.

It is doubtful whether the Emperor will give his sanction to the bequest of Archduke John's papers to his nephew Prince Charles, since his marriage to an American girl, Miss Berliet, due to her lack of fortune, has made her an American girl, since his marriage to an American girl, Miss Berliet, due to her lack of fortune, has made her an American girl, since his marriage to an American girl, Miss Berliet, due to her lack of fortune, has made her an American girl.

Woodson's Mountain Shed.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—What is the matter with Danville? In years ago it never knew anything but poverty and distress, being protected from the same by a "blessed mountain shed" that tipped over the southeast corner of White Oak and Turkey mountains, and which, according to the one-time doctrine vigorously preached by Frank S. Woodson, last Sunday's cyclonic visitation, which unroofed factories and stores and blew down houses and residences, and blew down costly electric wires and expensive machinery, and ruined one way and another entailed losses that amount to more than \$200,000, according to telegraphic reports, was a thing which, if it had not been for the "blessed mountain shed" which Woodson's "blessed mountain shed" was in active business. There is a mountain shed in the town of Danville, within the past few months from the south side of White Oak and Turkey mountains, and called it to the east side of the Alleghenies, a little south of Gordonsville, that it may the better protect Greater Richmond from the same.

Voice of the People

Whether this be true or not, the fact remains that Richmond has had the same "blessed mountain shed" which Woodson's "blessed mountain shed" was absolutely immune, has had two, and both were pretty much blown down. C. B. ALLEN.
 South Boston, June 19.

Change Registration Laws.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—If the people want to keep the negro from voting, they don't they disfranchise him like men, which they claim to be, and make every one from the age of twenty-one to fifty years pay a poll tax. This farming district and the city are losing hundreds of thousands of dollars every year, and they have no way, on high ways, and besides, no way is going to lose two days to register and vote except the idle and the politician. I know good men who would pay this tax, but forgot the date and did not register.

FOR RENT.

Excuse a beastly poor pen, please. You may have my opinion on this, but I will say that having to live in this State for two years to vote works a hardship. I should be like other States, only one year. I am from Wisconsin, and must say that they have got some beastly poor laws here. Roxbury. C. A. GREEN

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